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putting down the rebellion. There was some question about her loyalty; but, however loyal she may have been, the ground generally taken was, that "the government is not bound to indemnify for the use or destruction of property in the rebel states; and that property of even loyal citizens there is not to be compensated for." It is a principle of the common law too familiar to be questioned, that in an emergency, such as to prevent pestilence, shipwreck, loss of life, starvation, or in case of public calamity, private property may be taken and destroyed without the party destroying it being liable in damages. All men hold their property subject to this rule.

"LET US HAVE PEACE."

BY S. H. BROWNE.

Enough of strife, enough of fierce contention;
Now let the clamor and the conflict cease;
Let Passion's cords at last relax their tension—
"Let us have Peace!"

Enough of blood; enough of hate and slaughter!
The fettered heart and hand shall find release,
The turbid stream subside to crystal water—
"Let us have Peace!"

Let us complete the work. It is not ended
Till Freedom dares to utter her decrees,
Till Justice shelters all the unbefriended—
"Let us have Peace!"

Let us smite down the hydra-heads of Treason,
Fast as they rise above their slimy seas;
Right hoary wrongs; give scope to truth and reason—
"Let us have Peace!"

And Peace shall come; Peace like a flowing river,
O'er Land's true wealth and grandeur to increase,
And from Dishonor her fair name to sever—
"Let us have Peace!"

REDUCTION OF WAR EXPENSES:

A RESULT OF THE PEOPLE'S INFLUENCE ON GOVERNMENT.

We see on every hand proof that an infusion of popular influence, the real will of the people, into government is sure in most cases to reduce its expenses, and hold in check the strong tendency to exaggerated and superfluous armaments. It is quite instructive, and full of hope for the cause of peace, that our leading general, now so near the presidential chair, is throwing his influence very decidedly in this direction, and both Houses of Congress, after long years of extravagant expenditure, are seized with such a fit of economy as to cut down appropriations by the million, and the army by ten millions at a dash. Here is a specimen:—

"The bill for the reduction of the army is based in large part on the recommendations of Generals Thomas, Schofield, Hancock, McDowell and other officers, who have recently been examined by Gen. Garfield's committee. It provides for reducing the number of infantry regiments from fifty-five, the present number, to thirty, and the men of the regiments broken up are to be mustered into others. The

Pay, Commissary, and Quartermaster Departments are to be consolidated, and the new branch will be called the Supply Department. The ordnance arm of the service is to be broken up entirely. There is to be a reduction of about one-third in each of the staff departments. The Indian Bureau is to be transferred to the War Department, and the extra line and staff officers are to be put on duty in place of the present civil officers among the Indians. These are merely the outlines of the proposed plan. It looks to a reduction of at least 600 in the number of army officers; and it is thought that the adoption of the measure will reduce the expenses of the government fully \$10,000,000 per annum. No new officers are to be mustered in; and the committee think that by death, discharge and resignation, the present force of officers can in less than three years be reduced to the average requirement of the service."

The recent increase of the popular element in the British Government is rapidly working out like results there. Mr. Gladstone's administration is making a vigorous attempt to introduce those principles of economy to which it has been pledged. A circular letter has been issued by the Board of Admiralty, exhorting all officials connected with the navy to exercise the most vigilant supervision over the expenditure for which they are responsible, intimating that their chances of promotion will depend very much upon their behavior in this respect! The condition of the Custom House and other civil offices is, also, undergoing scrutiny, and there is a general trembling among "deputies" and "assistants," whose titles, it is said, suggest the idea of "two to do one man's work." Actual reductions in high and low official sphere are announced, and the extinction of high offices, the gift of which carries valuable patronage, is hinted at.

The Pall Mall Gazette remarks: "It is a good sign that they have begun with reductions in the higher grades of the official hierarchy. It is another good sign that the Treasury has been strengthened by Mr. Gladstone's new arrangements, for little will be done without a powerful central inquiring and controlling department. It is necessary to curb by a central authority the power and pretensions of permanent under-secretaries and chief clerks of departments."

This economical movement, of course, meets with much public favor, and suggestions of new fields for reform are numerous.

DISBANDMENT OF OUR FORCES AT THE CLOSE OF THE REBELLION. — This took the world by surprise. "The impulse of military ambition," said our friends abroad, "when once acquired, is in a nation as deep-rooted and as difficult to cure as the appetite for strong drink is in an individual. It must be borne in mind that America will come out of this war with an army of 800,000 trained and experienced warriors, and a navy probably inferior only to that of England, if, indeed, it be inferior in strength and the formidable nature of its armaments. Is there the smallest probability, does our experience of other nations afford the faintest ground for the expectation, that the American people will be content to disband this army, dismantle this navy, and return to the unarmed condition in which they were found four years ago?"

We must own we ourselves had many fears on this point; but our troops, nearly a million in all, began to be disbanded, and sent back to their former peaceful pursuits within a fortnight after the surrender of the rebel armies. By this we set a new and very instructive example to the world, and proved that we are not inclined to war as a people, that our efforts to put down the rebellion had very little of the spirit or habits of war, and that all we attempted was

in principle, as it was in design, simply to enforce law against its banded wholesale violators. Both our people and our government treated the case not as properly a war, but as a *police operation on a gigantic scale*, the execution of law against those who had broken it, differing not in its nature but only in its magnitude, from the efforts to put down the mob in Boston in the summer of 1863, or to suppress the terrible riot in New York the same year.

EUROPEAN ARMIES.—While some of our citizens are groaning over our little army of 50,000 men, it is worth while to give a glance at the astonishing military preparations on the continent of Europe. A military writer has recently taken the matter in hand, and published the result of his investigations in the English press. He finds that *five nations have no less than five and a half millions of men ready to take the field at once*, or at a short notice. This is exclusive of Holland, Belgium, Spain, Turkey and other second-class Powers. Two of the European States, France and Prussia, are thoroughly prepared for war at this moment. The former could start off with half a million of men, completely equipped, supplied and drilled, and probably eager for the contest; and the latter, with a considerably less ready nucleus, has an immense reserve almost as well trained and prepared for combat. — *Boston Journal*.

THE SOCIETY'S WESTERN OPERATIONS.

We have not fully started these operations as yet; but among our Lecturers is Rev. Dr. Wm. E. FITHIAN, of Springfield, Ill., of whom we are glad to copy the following notice from the *State Journal*:—

We are glad to learn that Dr. Fithian, favorably known throughout the State, has received appointment from the American Peace Society to present its claims to the good people of Illinois, and has entered upon his work, though still recognizing the claims of the temperance cause, in which he has been lately engaged, and proved so efficient a lecturer. His plan of operations is to make visitations for the present in this region, and address congregations and the public generally in explanatory discourses and lectures as extensively as practicable; to invoke the aid of the pulpit and the press; to raise needed funds for the society, not by public collections, but by free-will offerings privately made; and to distribute, by gift, subscription or purchase, the productions of the society—thus to arrest public attention, reach the masses, and contribute to educate the people and the rising generation in the principles, practice and service of peace.

We take pleasure in adding that the commission of Dr. Fithian has the hearty endorsement of the various pastors and ministers of Springfield, and that the American Peace Society is entirely free of any ecclesiastical or political control, and commends itself to the favorable regards of all Christian philanthropists.

Dr. Fithian is not without practical knowledge of what war is in contrast to peace; and being a popular lecturer and an earnest advocate of gospel truths in all their reformatory requirements and appliances, he is well adapted to his new position, and will, we do not doubt, awaken a deep interest in the peace cause, and prove its successful advocate. The society is fortunate in securing the services in this field of one so apt, affable and in every way qualified; and we bespeak for the doctor and the cause he represents a cheerful welcome and liberal response everywhere.

Other laborers are just entering the great field at the West. It needs many more; and we hope our friends in the older States will enable us largely to increase their number.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

RAILWAYS IN HINDOSTAN.—There are 4,000 miles already completed, and 1,000 more commenced or projected. A specimen of the influence for good projected from Christendom over the pagan world. We see the same in China, Japan and other heathen countries. How much, but for her war-system and war habits, might Christendom thus do in conciliating the favorable regards of the heathen, and paving the way for the spread of the gospel.

GERMAN UNIVERSITIES.—There are 29 in Germany, with 21,542 students; and the number of professors engaged in lecturing at them amounted in the last term to 2,194. There is a movement on foot for raising funds for the benefit of the poorer scholars, so as to enable them to give their minds exclusively to their studies.

SUFFRAGE IN SPAIN.—The universal suffrage decreed by the revolutionary authorities of Spain raises the number of voters in the country from 318,271 to 3,619,642—all of them Spaniards, and all over 25 years of age. The election returns in January will, it is supposed, give to the constituent Cortez 300 Monarchists, only 35 Republicans, and 15 Bourbonists, proving that Spain is not yet ripe for Republicanism.

GENERAL STATE OF SPAIN.—Though more quiet and favorable than could have been expected of such a country passing the ordeal of a revolutionary crisis, it is still very precarious.—The delay of the Cortez that is to determine the form of the government, and perhaps to select the person who is to be the ruler, has left the way open, and a strong temptation to foment divisions, and obstruct in many ways the plans of the original revolutionists. Partisans of several aspirants to the throne are busily at work in their respective interests, and very likely to bring imbroglios that may plunge the country for a long time in blood. A people so ignorant and superstitious can easily be made dupes; and it is said that "the agents of the different candidates to the throne, freely lavish money, and induce the ignorant peasants to rise and erect barricades, telling them, among other things, that should Don Carlos or the ex-Queen come back, all the land now belonging to the rich will be divided amongst them, and these tales the uneducated masses, urged on by the priests, freely believe. It is, also, declared that men are being openly enlisted to fight for Don Carlos.

ENGLAND AND UNITED STATES.—The dispute about the Alabama and kindred points, still seems to hang on both sides in doubt. We have reports about the exact terms of the treaty negotiated; but nothing is yet settled and certain. We have no doubt that a peaceful solution will ultimately be reached; but how long it will take actually to secure it, we know not, and dare not guess.

GREECE AND TURKEY.—are not likely to have war. The Congress at Paris issued their protocol; and the parties will in all probability accept its terms. Turkey has, and the King of Greece signifies his purpose to do so, but finds it difficult at the moment to form a cabinet that will carry out his wishes.

SOUTH AMERICA.—The war of Brazil and her allies against the desperate Lopez, is virtually ended, as he has been vanquished, and has fled for safety to the forests.

CUBA.—Accounts coming from the government on one side, and from the revolutionists on the other, still continue conflicting, and the result is likely to be for some time in much doubt. The question of a protectorate for Hayti by our government, though so generally frowned upon at first by our Congress, seems not yet to be entirely put at rest.

STATE OF THE CONTINENT.—is unusually favorable to a settled and assured peace. All the great Powers seem honestly intent on securing this result.